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May 2, 2002

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street Northwest, Rm 814
Washington, DC 20554-0001

RECEIVED

RE: Kurt Hurtle

JUN 18 2002

Dear Chairman Hundt:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

My office is still experiencing serious delays in the delivery of mail. The anthrax screening process for all mail coming to my Washington, D.C. office is causing a delay of at least two months. Until these problems are solved and to make sure I am able to respond to my constituents as quickly as possible, please send or fax all mail to the appropriate district office listed on this stationery.

I am writing to you on behalf of Kurt Hurtle and enclosing information for your review.

I would appreciate your looking into this matter and providing me with any information you may have about this so that I can respond to my constituent.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Caren Jones in my Chattanooga office at 423-756-2342. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warmest regards,

Zach Wamp
Member of Congress

ZW:cj

Enclosure

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APR 30

MY DIRECTV TV SERVICE IS NOT WORKING

11:20 AM

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DIRECTV in the News

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Merged EchoStar and Hughes Will Deliver Local Broadcast Ch
To All 210 U.S. Television MarketsCombined Company Will Also Bridge 'Digital Divide' With Affordable Broadband Satellite
Service in Every Market

El Segundo, CA and Littleton, CO Feb 28, 2002 EchoStar Communications Corp. (Nasdaq: DISH) and Hughes Electronics Corporation (NYSE: GHM) announced today a proposal that will enable the combined company to deliver local broadcast TV channels Designated Market Areas (DMAs) in the United States.

In their joint satellite application filed with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Monday, the companies detailed a technically and commercially feasible "Local Channel Americans" plan developed by DISH Network and DIRECTV engineers that will allow the company to offer every consumer in the continental United States, Alaska, and Hawaii satellite-delivered local television signals.

The filing also seeks authority to launch and operate a new spot-beam satellite that will combined with four existing and under-construction EchoStar and DIRECTV spot-beam and spectrum efficiencies achieved by combining frequencies from three of the company locations, will enable the merged company to broadcast local TV channels in all 210 DMAs including full compliance with federal must carry requirements. Today, DIRECTV and EchoStar deliver local broadcast channels via satellite to consumers in a total of only 42 metropolitan markets. The merger eliminates carriage of duplicative content — a total of more than 1,000 channels — from the DIRECTV and DISH Network satellites which, when coupled with the spot-beam satellites and efficiencies created by the merger, would enable local channels in all U.S. DMAs.

EchoStar and HUGHES filed the satellite application today contemporaneously with the formal response to comments on the merger previously filed with the FCC on Feb. 4.

"While there are numerous consumer and competitive benefits from this pending merger ability to offer local channels to every consumer in every television market in the country including rural and underserved areas — certainly is one of the most compelling aspects of the deal," said Charles Ergen, chairman and CEO of EchoStar. "Today, approximately 42 million households do not have the option to receive local channels via satellite, and as such, choice but to subscribe to cable. Without this merger, many of those will never see local channels on satellite and have no choice of local television providers."

Ergen continued, "We have heard the concerns of local, state and federal representatives and we appreciate their feedback and input. Only if this merger is approved by government will millions of consumers in small and rural markets in every state finally have a competitive alternative to incumbent cable operators. Clearly, this merger is a win for consumers across all of America."

New set-top boxes and satellite dishes, which will be capable of receiving satellite signals on multiple orbital slots, will be made available free of charge to all existing DIRECTV and EchoStar customers who will require new equipment in order to receive their local channels from the combined company.

Consumers across the country will receive programming from the merged direct broadcast service via one small satellite dish and will pay the same nationwide price for services, nationwide, and there will be one dish and one rate card, regardless of a subscriber's location, said Ergen.

"This merger will bring to fruition so many tremendous benefits to consumers that it is a standard for the delivery of multichannel video and broadband services," said Jack Shafer and CEO of HUGHES. "In addition to delivering local channels in all 210 television markets the combined company will bridge the 'digital divide' by offering affordable high-speed satellite access to consumers in every market, including the most rural areas of the country. With a more robust and efficient satellite platform with a larger subscriber base that will enable

Jill,
This is the info I am
requesting help on. See
area. This merger would
have a devastating effect
upon our small business.
Specifically I would like
to know

① Time table for approval
or disapproval.

② Who is lined up on
either side so we can
voice our opinion.

DIXIE
Industrial Coatings, Inc.

Thanks
K

KURT HERTLE
Vice President
General Manager

P.O. Box 5130 • 3800 N. Hawthorne Street
Chattanooga • Tennessee 37408

merged company to transition existing niche satellite Internet services to a more affordable next-generation service."

The combined EchoStar-HUGHES will also offer more high definition channels, new int services, expanded national programming networks and additional educational, special foreign-language programming.



The ability of the combined company to serve all 210 DMAs with local channels is contingent upon the proposed HUGHES-EchoStar merger receiving the necessary government approval from the FCC and U.S. Department of Justice, and the successful launch of three new spot-beam satellites. Implementation of the "Local Channels, All Americans" plan will begin immediately upon approval of the merger, and the rollout can be completed as soon as 24 months thereafter. The proposed transaction is also subject to review by the Internal Revenue Service, and re-approval by a majority of GM 81-2/3, GM Class H and EchoStar shareholders.

DISH Network is a trademark of EchoStar Communications Corporation. DISH Network is EchoStar's direct broadcast satellite TV system that is capable of offering over 500 channels of digital CD-quality audio programming, as well as advanced satellite TV receiver hardware and installation services. DISH Network is included in the Nasdaq-100 Index (NDX). DISH Network currently serves over 5.43 million customers. For more information, contact 1-800/333-DISH (3474) or visit www.dishnetwork.com.

DIRECTV is the nation's leading digital satellite television service provider with more than 10.7 million customers. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo are registered trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc., a subsidiary of Hughes Electronics Corporation. HUGHES is the world's leading provider of digital television and broadband services, satellite-based private business networks, and global video and data broadcast services. HUGHES, a unit of General Motors Corporation, are used to calculate the earnings of the General Motors Class H common stock (NYSE: GMH). Visit DIRECTV on the World Wide Web at www.directv.com.

In connection with the proposed transactions, General Motors Corporation ("GM"), Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes") and EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar") intend to file materials with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including one or more Registration Statements on Form S-4 that contain a prospectus and proxy/consent solicitation statement. Because those documents contain important information, holders of GM 81-2/3 and GM Class H common stock are urged to read them when they become available. When filed with the SEC, they will be available for free at its website, www.sec.gov, and GM stockholders will receive information at an appropriate time on transaction-related documents for free from General Motors. Such documents are not currently

General Motors and its directors and executive officers, Hughes and certain of its officers, and certain of its executive officers may be deemed to be participants in GM's solicitation of proxies from the holders of GM 81-2/3 common stock and GM Class H common stock in connection with the transactions. Information regarding the participants and their interests in the solicitation was filed with the SEC by EchoStar on November 1, 2001 and by each of GM and Hughes on November 16, 2001. Investors may obtain additional information regarding the interests of the participants in the prospectus and proxy/consent solicitation statement if and when it becomes available.

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities will be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act, as amended.

Materials included in this document contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. They could cause actual results of GM, Hughes, EchoStar, or a combined EchoStar and Hughes, to differ from many of which are beyond the control of EchoStar, Hughes or GM include, but are not limited to: (1) the businesses of EchoStar and Hughes may not be integrated successfully or may be more difficult, time-consuming or costly than expected; (2) expected benefits and synergies may not be realized within the expected time frame or at all; (3) revenues following the transaction may be lower than expected; (4) operating costs, customer loss and business delays, including, without limitation, difficulties in maintaining relationships with employees, customers and suppliers, may be greater than expected following the transaction; (5) generating the incremental subscriber base of the combined company may be more costly or difficult than expected; (6) regulatory approvals required for the transaction may not be obtained on the terms expected or on a timely schedule; (7) the effects of legislative and regulatory changes; (8) an inability to obtain necessary retransmission consents; (9) an inability to obtain necessary authorizations from the FCC; (10) competition from cable as a result of digital cable or otherwise, direct broadcast satellite, other system operators, and other providers of subscription television services; (11) the introduction of new technologies and competitors into the subscription television business; (12) changes in labor, equipment and capital costs; (13) future acquisitions, strategic partnerships and divestitures; (14) business and economic conditions; and (15) other risks described from time to time in periodic reports filed by EchoStar, Hughes or GM with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You are urged to read carefully the statements that include the words "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "potential," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "intends," "continues," "forecasts," "describes" or the negative of those words or other comparable words to be uncertain and forward-looking. Cautionary statement applies to all forward-looking statements included in this document.

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